United Nations S/2005/735

Security Council

Distr.: General
23 November 2005

Original: English

Letter dated 18 November 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I would like to address you, in your capacity as the President of the Security Council, and request your kind assistance in circulating as a document of the Council the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the recent development of events in Abkhazia, Georgia, made on 15 November 2005 (see annex).

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

05-61698 (E) 251105

Annex to the letter dated 18 November 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the recent development of events in Abkhazia, Georgia

In the recent period, the Georgian authorities have sought repeatedly to focus the attention of the world community on the escalated situation in Abkhazia, Georgia. The gravest violations are reported in the field of human rights and freedoms.

The separatist government of Abkhazia and its so-called law enforcement authorities acting with apparent immunity are waging a campaign of terror against the ethnically Georgian population, with the goal of expelling it from the region, completing the process of ethnic cleansing and eventually having its legitimacy recognized.

Flagrant acts of arbitrariness in the conflict zone take place in the very presence of the peacekeeping forces and in many cases with their latent consent. On 13 November an incident in the Gali region ended again in the tragic loss of life. In the morning, in Chuburkhinji, a gang of unidentified people, presumably Gali police officers, attacked Kh. Arkania and G. Sichinava, residents of the region. As a result, Kh. Arkania was shot dead on the spot. G. Sichinava received wounds and was taken to a local hospital.

Along with a series of armed assaults on the Georgian population, there are attempts to bring the ongoing ethnic cleansing within the so-called legal framework, to which attest the scandalous statements of S. Bagapsh, leader of the Abkhazian separatist regime. Specifically, in connection with the planned handout of Abkhazian passports towards the end of November, he declared that the Abkhazian population will be allowed to hold the citizenship of only one state. The simultaneous bearing of Georgian and Abkhazian passports will be banned. Anyone opposed to being admitted to the so-called Abkhazia will be forced to leave its territory. The only exception is intended for Russian citizens.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia expresses its extreme concern over the existing situation in the region and urges the international community to appraise duly the actions of the separatist regime and adopt appropriate measures in order to prevent an armed confrontation from being provoked in the region.